MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

14 DECEMBER 1983

PLO Affairs

The Israeli Navy shelled "terrorist" positions in and around Tripoli on 13 December, scoring accurate hits and sustaining no Israeli casualties, the IDF spokesman announced in statements reported by Jerusalem radio. A spokesman for PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat claimed that Palestinian defenses hit one of the Israeli gunboats in the first artillery exchange, according to Radio Monte Carlo. Syrian forces near Tripoli joined in the shelling against the Israeli vessels after their positions were hit by the Israeli bombardment, Beirut radio reported citing eyewitnesses. A spokesman for the PFLP-General Command said the Palestinian factions opposed to 'Arafat exchanged fire with the gunboats, according to Damascus radio.

Israeli security sources said the shelling was intended to deter 'Arafat from trying to leave the city and make it clear to the international community that Israel opposes the evacuation, Jerusalem radio reported. Israel did not and will not promise not to attack 'Arafat and his forces anywhere and at any time, Energy Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i said in remarks related by the radio. Deputy Prime Minister David Levi earlier told *LE MONDE* that Israel does not intend to attack 'Arafat and his supporters when they leave Tripoli. The Israeli naval presence offshore is merely a defensive measure and not a blockade, according to Levi.

Lebanon

Islamic Jihad — The Islamic Jihad, in an anonymous telephone call to EFE in Barcelona, reported by AFP, threatened "violent acts all over Europe" if the U.S., French, Italian, and British troops of the Multinational Force are not withdrawn from Lebanon.

Military Situation — Two U.S. warships anchored off Juniyah bombarded Syrian positions east of Beirut for approximately 15 minutes, hitting one military vehicle, according to a Syrian military spokesman cited by Damascus radio. The spokesman said that the shelling began immediately after two U.S. planes were "confronted" by Syrian air defenses and that therefore the overflight had been planned as "premeditated aggression." Voice of Lebanon radio reported that one SAM-7 was fired at the U.S. planes.

In another development, a French soldier was killed when his patrol was fired on in Beirut, the Voice of Lebanon stated, and Lebanese Army positions in Khaldah came under antitank fire. The radio also noted clashes in the Al-Kharrub region and indiscriminate shelling of several areas in Beirut. Also in Beirut, bombs exploded outside two churches in separate areas of the city, Beirut radio reported. In the south, two IDF soldiers were wounded by a bomb blast in Sidon, while in a separate incident one IDF soldier was wounded by a hand grenade, Jerusalem radio said. Meanwhile, Voice of Lebanon charged that six SS-21 "bases," manned by "well over 200" Soviets and "a number" of Syrians, have been established in the country.

Political Developments — President Amin al-Jumayyil again refused to accept his Cabinet's resignation and renewed his request that it continue work until a national unity government can be established, the Cabinet secretary general announced in a statement reported by Beirut radio. Later, Al-Jumayyil arrived in London for talks, according to the radio.

Dayr al-Qamar — Jerusalem radio reported that the besieged Phalangist-held town of Dayr al-Qamar will be evacuated beginning 15 December, one day later than previously reported. Jerusalem television maintained that the IDF would oversee the evacuation of the Phalangist fighters, contradicting earlier reports from Damascus that the military withdrawal would be supervised by the Italian contingent of the Multinational Force.

Syria

Syrian leaders are carefully studying the U.S.-Israeli strategic agreement in order to take appropriate measures to achieve a regional "equilibrium" that will enable Syria to confront the U.S.-Israeli alliance and its consequences, Ba'th Party Assistant Regional Secretary General Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah declared in a speech broadcast by Damascus television. The "aggressive" alliance marks the beginning of an Israeli "empire" in the Arab region, he contended. If the "aggressors" attack Syria, however, the battle will expand to include the "entire Arab homeland," Mashariqah warned.

Kuwait Bombings

In a telephone call to the Lebanese paper *AS-SAFIR*, a man calling himself Shaykh Zayn al-'Abidin claimed responsibility for the series of bombings on 12 December, Radio Monte Carlo reported. The caller stated that the attacks will be repeated in "neighboring states and anywhere the U.S. flag is raised."

A Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by Tehran radio denied that Iran was behind the bombings and said that "attributing them to Iran is part and parcel of a comprehensive plot by the United States and its agents" against Iran. Similarly, Fatah Central Committee member Rafiq an-Natshah "categorically denied" any PLO connection with the bombings, Algiers Voice of Palestine radio reported, while PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas "condemned" the explosions and affirmed that the PLO places "all its capabilities" at Kuwait's disposal "to confront those who confuse base acts with heroism," according to Kuwait radio.

Meanwhile, KUNA reported, the governor of Kuwait stated that the driver of the truck which exploded at the U.S. Embassy died as a result of the blast and that his nationality is unknown.

Iran

Gharazi Warning — According to Petroleum Minister Mohammad Gharazi, if two countries are engaged in war and a third country places resources and equipment at the disposal of one of the belligerents, the other can seize "all those resources in the sea, on land, and in all other places." In an interview reported by Tehran radio, Gharazi reminded Saudi Arabia and Kuwait of Iran's declaration that they are "not allowed to sell oil in place of Iraq."

Khamene'i on Mojahedin — Referring to the Mojahedin-e Khalq opposition group, President 'Ali Khamene'i told revolution guards in a speech reported by Tehran radio that the "hypocrites" are not now carrying out assassinations but are instead attempting to "infiltrate and sow dissension."

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Karmal, Bulgaria's Zhivkov Exchange Messages
LD130722 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0515 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Kabul, December 12, Bakhtar — Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Bulgaria and president of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, sent a goodwill telegram addressed to Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, while overflying the airspace of the DRA.

Todor Zhivkov has expressed in the telegram his best wishes for the personal health of Babrak Karmal and for the further successes of the fraternal people of Afgahnistan in the construction of a new society, safeguard of the independence and national sovereignty.

Babrak Karmal also sent a reply telegram to Todor Zhivkov his best wishes for the personal health of Todor Zhivkov and of the further successes of the fraternal Bulgarian people.

Karachi Reports on Officers Killed in Crash
BK131708 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] In Afghanistan, a military helicopter recently crashed at the Mogor Airport, killing 13 senior Soviet and Karmal military officers onboard, according to reports. The helicopter was going along with another helicopter carrying the military ccommander of Qandahar.

According to another report, the mujahidin attacked the central jail in Ghazni early this month and succeeded in freeing about 700 people.

The Karmal administration immediately dispatched reinforcements, including some tanks, to the (?jail) area.

The mujahidin destroyed a tank with rocket-propelled grenades.

Reportage on Bulgarian President's Visit

Banquet Remarks

BK131409 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] India and Bulgaria have called for immediate end to the nuclear arms race. Voicing their concern over the growing interference in the internal affairs of sovereign nations, particularly small ones, the president, Giani Zail Singh, and the visiting Bulgarian president, Mr Todor Zhivkov, urged the powerful nations to join in the common endeavor for achieving peace and disarmament. They were speaking at a banquet hosted by Giani Zail Singh in honor of Mr Zhivkov in New Delhi.

Giani Zail Singh said unless the main issue of stopping the nuclear arms race is tackled, there can be no worthwhile progress on disarmament. He regretted that richer nations have not yet recognized the need for urgent action to bring an equitable international economic order.

In his reply, President Zhivkov praised India's role as leader of the nonaligned and a stabilizing factor for world peace.

Gandhi Meeting

BK131412 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, today called on the visiting Bulgarian president, Mr Todor Zhivkov, and had talks with him. Some major international issues and important bilateral matters figured during the discussions. At the same time, the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, and the Bulgarian foreign affairs minister, Mr Petur Mladenov, also had separate talks assisted by their senior aides.

Mrs Gandhi hosted a lunch in honor of Mr Zhivkov.

13 December Activities

BK140151 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] India and Bulgaria today discussed measures to expand and diversify bilateral trade to reduce imbalance against India. Delegations of the two countries met in New Delhi this morning while the prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, and the visiting Bulgarian president, Mr Todor Zhivkov, held separate talks. The two leaders mainly discussed international and bilateral issues. Mr Zhivkov later attended a lunch hosted by Mrs Gandhi in his honor.

The Indo-Bulgarian joint commission on economic, scientific and technical cooperation ended its meeting today after examining the progress made in bilateral cooperation in these fields. The review covered the areas of industrial machinery, engineering goods, computers and electronic equipment, chemicals and dyestuff and pharmaceuticals.

The Bulgarian president was accorded a civic reception by the citizens of Delhi at the historic Diwan-i-Aam in Red Fort this evening. Those present included the prime minister, members of the diplomatic corps and other dignitaries.

Speaking on the occasion, Mrs Gandhi said that India and Bulgaria have identical views on various world issues. She also reiterated India's policy of peace and friendship. In his address, Mr Zhivkov praised the all-round progress achieved by India since independence. Referring to his talks with Indian leaders, the Bulgarian president said that his visit will give a new impetus to the bilateral relations.

Earlier in his welcome address, the mayor of Delhi, Mr Mohinder Singh Sathi, said the peoples of the two countries have drawn sustenance and strength from each others' struggle for emancipation. The mayor presented Mr Zhivkov an ivory chariot, specimen of Indian handicraft.

Zhivkov Arrival in Bombay

BK140919 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] The president of the Democratic [as heard] Republic of Bulgaria, Mr Todor Zhivkov, was given a warm welcome at Bombay Airport this morning on his arrival on a day's visit to the city. He was received at the airport by the Maharashtra governor, Mr I. H. Latif. In the afternoon, the Bulgarian president will visit the public sector Mazagaon dock.

Mr Zhivkov will leave for home tomorrow.

Singh To Visit Czechoslovakia, Qatar, Bahrain

BK140104 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] The president, Giani Zail Singh, leaves New Delhi on Thursday morning on an 8-day visit to Czechoslovakia, Qatar, and Bahrain. This will be his first state visit after assuming the office of president in July last year.

In Prague, Giani Zail Singh will call on President Gustav Husak, who will also be hosting a banquet in his honor on Thursday evening. During the day, Giani Zail Singh will hold official talks. From Prague, the president arrives in Bratislava, where an honorary doctorate will be conferred on him in philosophical science by the (Kommunias) university.

After his 3-day visit to Czechoslovakia, the president will visit Doha. He leaves for Bahrain on the 20th. His engagements in Bahrain include visits to Bahrain-Saudi Causeway and the Indian school.

The president will return to New Delhi on the 22d of this month.

Nonaligned Media Conference Issues Declaration
BK131421 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] The media conference of the nonaligned has urged developing countries to do much more than what they have done to increase the flow of information. In a declaration unanimously adopted at the end of its 4-day session in New Delhi, it called upon journalists to strive for an equitable world order in the fields of world economy, information, and communication. The declaration called upon media men to rise above parochial loyalties and explore avenues to promote peace, freedom, and justice. It also stressed the need for reducing economic disparities.

Supreme Court Upholds President's Election
BK131425 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] The Supreme Court today unanimously upheld the election of Giani Zail Singh as the president of India. It dismissed a batch of petitions including ones by a number of MPs challenging his election.

The five-judge constitution bench headed by the chief justice, Mr Chandrachud, observed that if courts were to enquire into every kind of doubt or frivolous disputes, election petitions will soon become a ground for fighting political battles.

Report Suggests Changes in Conduct of Elections
BK140126 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] The Election Commission has suggested imposition of president's rule in the states at the time of holding elections for the assemblies. This has been stated in a report of the commission presented to Lok Sabha today by the law minister, Mr Jagannath Kaushal. It relates to the presidential election of 1982 and the elections to some state assemblies.

The report said that president's rule is the ideal solution to get over most of the problems now being witnessed during elections in any state. The commission suggested that this can be achieved by a constitutional amendment or by convention. It says the chief minister of the state in which the general election is to be held may resign his office immediately on the publication of the notification. The commission has also expressed the view that more stringent measures need to be provided for taking penal and administrative actions against government officials for lapses in election duties or for the defiance of the commission's directions. It has also recommended amendments of the representation of the People Act for empowering the Election Commission to regulate matters relating to political parties.

The report has suggested introduction of mobile polling stations with electronic voting machines to cover the areas inhabited by weaker sections. This will bring about free exercise of votes by these communities.

Gandhi Says Fuel for Reactor Developed Locally
BK140857 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] The prime minister informed the Lok Sabha today that India has developed indigenous fuel for the fast breeder test reactor. It is, therefore, not necessary to get fuel from France.

Minister on Proposal To Build T-72 Tanks
BK131439 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] India proposes to undertake indigenous production of Soviet T-72 tanks. The Minister of State for Defense Mr K.P. Singh Deo said this in the Rajya Sabha today. He said, besides this, India's own main battle tank is also under development.

The defense minister, Mr Venkataraman, told the Rajya Sabha today that the government is monitoring all developments which have a bearing on the security of the country. He said all steps have been taken to ensure adequate defense preparedness. The minister said that the government is aware of the movement of Pakistani troops in the vicinity of the Indian borders. It may be a part of the (?team) excercise, he said.

Home Minister on Seizure of Arms in Punjab
BK140925 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] The home minister, Mr P.C. Sethi, assured the Lok Sabha today that the government has taken all precautionary measures to prevent unauthorized manufacture of firearms. The assurance was given during question time when some members sought clarifications about arms seized from extremists in Punjab.

The minister informed the House that intensive combing operations were launched by the Punjab government after imposition of the president's rule — 22 rifles, 21 revolvers, including 1 Pakistan-made revolver, 32 guns, 2 carbines, and 239 pistols were recovered. During this period over 590 persons were arrested under the Arms Act. Cases have been registered and investigations are in progress.

The House was also informed that between January and September this year, over 1,300 pistols and 100 revolvers, 56 rifles, and 8 stenguns were recovered during the police raids and cases have been registered.

The minister said most of them are country made weapons. Steps have been taken to prevent arms smuggling across the border.

U.S., Israeli Strategic Cooperation Criticized

BK131616 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Pakistan has criticized the new U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation accord. The Pakistan delegate, Mr Abdul Waheed, has told the UN General Assembly during its debate on the Middle East that the accord will worsen the situation. He pointed out that the issues in the Middle East at stake relate to the fate of occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, the future of the Palestinian people, and the termination of Israeli aggression against Lebanon.

Yaqub Khan Calls ICO Meeting 'Notable Success'

BK131522 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said the final declaration of the Islamic foreign ministers' conference reflects the desire to fortify the spirit of brotherhood in the umma' [community] and to endeavor to bridge the existing differences. In a statement of the report read by the foreign minister on his return to Islamabad this evening from Dhaka after attending the conference, he described it as a notable success.

He said the conference gave its complete endorsement to Pakistan's position on Afghanistan, renewed its call for withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghan territory. Other resolutions moved by Pakistan, including that on northern Cyprus, were also adopted by the conference.

The foreign minister said the Turkish and Turkish-Cypriot delegates expressed their deep appreciation for Pakistan's sponsorship of a resolution on Cyprus.

About the election of the Islamic Conference Organization secretary general, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said an amicable understanding was reached between Pakistan and Bangladesh. The issue, he said, will definitely be settled at the Islamic foreign ministers conference in Morocco next month.

Ziaul Haq Opens Islamic Science Meeting

BK140123 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] The president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has called for the creation of a scientific supporting society and the vigorous scientific community in the Muslim umma' [community] for rapid development of the Muslim world. Inaugurating the second meeting of the ICO standing committee on scientific and technological cooperation in Islamabad this morning, the president also underscored the need of establishing centers of excellence in selected areas for scientific and technological research and high-level manpower training. He said the task of creating a scientific ethos and value system in the Islamic society must be taken in hand as a matter of high priority and a mass movement launched with a missionary zeal for popularization of science in the Muslim umma'. The educational system, starting from the primary level, should become the mainspring for the achievement of this transformation. National languages should serve as a vehicle for the mass production of text books, reading material, and science fiction. Scientific activities should be promoted through science clubs, science fairs, museums, exhibitions, and expeditions.

The president also emphasized the need for facilitating the movement of scientists among the Muslim countries and the attraction of eminent Muslim research scientists to the scientific institutions at home. To meet the scientific and tecchnological challenge, the umma' should prefer to import Muslim consultants or expatriate experts. As far as Pakistan is concerned, it would welcome scientists from abroad without the formality of any visas. He reiterated that there is no restriction on the Pakistani scientists, educationists, and the doctors to go abroad.

The secretary general of the ICO, Mr Habib Chatti, in his speech read out on his behalf, called for working together by the Muslim world for a continuous exchange of information on their individual experiences and research in the acquisition and development of technology.

The adviser on science and technology, Dr M.A. Qazi, in his welcome address said a modest plan of action for scientific and technological development of the Islamic umma' has been prepared for consideration of the meeting.

Isiamabad Conference on Islam Ends 12 Dec

BK121536 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Excerpts] The 3-day international conference on Islam ended in Islamabad this afternoon after a thorough examination of the major ideological, political, economic, and cultural problems facing the Muslim world.

The conference passed 13 resolutions including those on Afghanistan, Al-Quds and Palestine, the Iran-Iraq war, Jammu and Kashmir, and Muslim minorities. The conference expressed grave concern over the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and called upon the Soviet Union to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan. The resolution thanked Pakistan and Iran for their humanitarian assistance to the Afghan refugees.

It (? expressed) grave concern over the continued denial of the right of self-determination to the people of Jammu and Kashmir which had been agreed to and reaffirmed in the resolutions of the UN Security Council and its other agencies.

Radio Pakistan's representative says that the conference was attended by 95 delegates from different parts of the Mulsim world.

Iran Air-PIA Talks Begin 7 December

GF111518 Karachi DAWN in English 8 Dec 83 p 8

[Text] Talks to explore new avenues of cooperation between the PIA and Iran Air began in Karachi on Wednesday.

The six-member Iranian delegation was led at the talks by the Vice Minister of Roads and Transportation, Seyyed Hassan Shafti, who is also the chairman of Iran Air.

The PIA team was led by Air Vice Marshal [AVM] Waqar Azim, managing director.

The close and cordial relations between the two countries were reflected in the warm friendship and mutual cooperation that exists between the national airlines of the two brotherly countries, AVM Waqar Azim said while welcoming the Iran Air delegation.

According to a PIA press release he reiterated the offer of "all possible cooperation and assistance" in the fields of engineering, maintenance and training.

The Iranian Vice Minister, Seyyed Hassan Shafti, said he was confident the two airlines would continue to derive inspiration from each other and assist each other in every possible way.

He said he and his colleagues were keen to see PIA's engineering and training establishments and would consider how Iran Air could benefit from these facilities.

Later, the Iran Air chief visited PIA's computer and automation units.

Seyyed Hassan Shafti also called on Air Vice Marshal Khurshid Anwar Mirza, director general of Civil Aviation Authority, (CAA) and exchanged views with him on the development of civil aviation activities between the two countries. AVM Mirza also hosted a lunch in honour of the Iranian delegation.

Government Bans Communist Bloc Graduates

GF130914 Lahore JANG in Urdu 6 Dec 83 pp 1, 8

[By correspondent]

[Text] Sakkhar — According to reliable sources, the government has decided not to absorb in governmental or semigovernmental organizations graduates who have been educated in communist countries and who had originally gone without receiving special permission from the Government of Pakistan. Instructions to this effect have been issued to all governmental organizations in the country.

MUSLIM Says Peshawar University To Reopen

GF130951 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 28 Nov 83 p 6

[Bureau report]

[Text] Peshawar, Nov. 27 — The postgraduate departments and constituent colleges of the Peshawar University closed since April 26 will reopen on Nov. 29, it was officially announced here today. All the government colleges including technical institutions in Peshawar Division will also resume the same day.

DAWN Discusses Influx of Iranian Nationals

GF091249 Karachi DAWN in English 2 Dec 83 p 7

[Text] Lyari, despite being one of the biggest slums in the backyard of the city, witnesses a boom in the hotel industry, mainly because of recent changes in Iran. Virtually, it has become the last transit spot for all those Iranian nationals who finally chose to leave their ancient land, at least for the time being.

Almost a dozen multi-storeyed hotels have come up on the Shidi Village Road, and more are being constructed.

The investors think it is profitable to construct multi-storeyed hotels to house the everincreasing number of incoming Iranians who cross into Pakistan and proceed to Karachi on their way to the United States, the Gulf region and Europe.

Some three years back, Shidi Village Road was a semi-deserted street housing a number of "sarais" (roadside improvised hotels). Their charges were nominal and within the range of the people in the lowest income-group. Many poor travellers from upcountry, on their way to the Gulf region, stayed here.

Another category of "sarai" clients were people from upcountry who wanted to migrate to the Gulf countries through unauthorised routes. Those "sarais" served as "contact points" for smugglers and their clients. A few "sarais" still survive to cater to the needs of the low-paid workers as the number of multi-storeyed hotels keeps on increasing.

The changes in Iran are felt not only within its territorial limits but also beyond it, and the spillover has reached the metropolitan city of Karachi. Thousands of Iranians crossed over to Pakistan through the land routes of Baluchistan since the return of the ayatollah. They paid huge sums of money to human smugglers passed through difficult terrains and vast deserts in Iran and finally managed to reach Karachi.

The influx has provided a roaring business for the traffickers in human beings. The smugglers, who operate through "unspecified routes" all along the border, in turn share their income with some of the officials in the remote areas of the country.

There have also been incidents, mainly on the Chagai and Mekran borders, when the traffickers failing to satisfy the officials had to spend a few days behind the bars before their clients were allowed to proceed to Karachi. So far there have been no reports of any illegal immigrants being sent back or deported to his own country.

There is an agreement between the two governments at local level in the border region, according to which a facility has been extended to the people living within 30 miles of the border. The officials issue "rahdari" (a temporary entry or exit permit) to allow people to visit their relatives on both sides of the border. For an illegal immigrant, the payment of Rs 25 per person compensates for the absence of "rahdari."

Generally, these immigrants belong to the upper and middle classes, most of them professionals such as teachers, technocrats, doctors, engineers, lawyers, government officials.

Apart from this, the area has developed as one of the main trading centres between central and western parts of Baluchistan and Karachi. The transporters have set up their offices and godowns from where goods are despatched to Baluchistan. The businessmen of central and western Baluchistan are also using the available facilities to stay closer to the main business centre on Shidi Village Road which now closely resembles Karachi (cant) station.

MASHRIQ on India 'Breaking Promise'

GF111212 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 5 Dec 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Jinnah House — Another Promise Being Broken"]

[Text] To strengthen the process of normalizing relations between Pakistan and India and to expand visa facilities for Indian nationals, Pakistan decided some months ago to open a consulate in Bombay. The Indian Government on its part had promised to lease to Pakistan the Jinnah House for the residence of the Pakistani consul general. Jinnah House was the personal property of the founder of Pakistan, Mohammad 'Ali Jinnah. After independence, this property too, like the properties of other Muslim nationals was placed under the control of the custodian of abandoned properties. Pakistan has made no claim of ownership of this property, but has only asked to lease it. The Indian Government agreed to this and even assured Pakistan in its parliamentary sessions that India had promised to lease this property to Pakistan. Now the Indian Government has reneged on this promise. The Indian foreign minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, in an answer to Mr Khashunat Singh's question in parliament said that the idea of leasing this property to Pakistan has been given up and that the Pakistani Government had been informed accordingly and had been asked to find out some other building for the residence of their consul general. One can surmise from this what value India places on its promises to other governments and to what length it can go to break a promise.

BANGLADESH

Ershad Discusses Upcoming Local Elections

BK131331 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1230 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Excerpt] President and Chief Martial Law Administrator Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad has said that the people in rural areas will have an opportunity to elect honest people and men of character as their representatives and to improve their conditions through local bodies elections. He was addressing a spontaneous gathering of people at (Baghirabazar) village in Munshiganj during a surprise visit there.

President Ershad said the interest and enthusiasm noted among the people to elect candidates in the Union Council elections indicate their eagerness to associate themselves with development efforts. The Union Council elections begin on the 27th of this month. He said that local bodies elections will [words indistinct] real democracy from the lowest level. He categorically reaffirmed that elections in subdistricts will be held according to schedule following the Union Council and municipalities elections.

Expressing firm confidence, Gen Ershad said the people will see to it that elections for local bodies are held peacefully. The people will be able to develop their future through implementation of developmental programs according to the needs of their respective regions following elections in the subdistricts.

SRI LANKA

SUN: Pirate Tamil Radio Possibly Coming From India

BK140137 Colombo THE SUN in English 7 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] The "Voice of Eelam," the pirate radio which was broadcasting Tamil separatist programmes on short wave, Lankan authorities now believe, is landbased and could be operating from South India.

Weekend columnist Don Mithuna on November 13 first reported on the presence of the pirate radio.

The Ministry of Defence has informed the Indian central government of the existence of this station, a powerful VHF transmitter.

The move came after communication experts determined that the transmitter was not based on a ship, which could result in quality changes in the transmissions depending on atmospheric conditions of the particular area from where the ship operates in a given date. After monitoring the transmissions over a period of time, these experts now agree that the transmitter is landbased.

However, more time is needed to get a "fix" on the transmitter, using omnidirectional receiving equipment. Sources said that with two sets equipped with omnidirectional trackers, the coordinates of the transmitter could be pinpointed extremely accurately.

Defence sources said that it was the nonavailability of these instruments that has prevented the authorities from locating the transmitter and taking steps to jam the transmissions if it is found that it comes from another country.

The Indian government has been informed tentatively of the investigations as it is quite possible that the transmissions are coming from Indian soil, sources said.

30,000 To Be Repatriated to India

BK140929 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Sri Lanka will repatriate to India some 30,000 people of Indian origin next year. Disclosing this in Parliament in Colombo, the deputy defense minister said that the government was taking steps to speed up settlement of dues to the repatriates by the management of tea plantations, where they work.

Iranian Connection With Kuwait Blasts Denied

Spokesman: U.S. Plot

LD131808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, in connection with news agencies reports with regard to Reagan's statement calling on Iran to prevent an attack on U.S. interests in the region, the spokesman of our country's Foreign Affairs Minister said:— Today, the superpowers, particularly the archsatan, the United States, find themselves facing a titanic wave represented by the resistance of the captive and deprived peoples of the world, each of which has manifested itself in a special manner, and in one way or another is giving a riposte to some of the acts of aggression and intervention by these powers. Those who are not prepared to accept this reality attempt to divert world public opinion from the universal wrath of nations, particularly the oppressed Muslims in the region. Therefore, they attribute such attacks to this or that country.

He added: These attacks have no connection whatsoever with the Islamic Republic. Attributing them to Iran is part and parcel of a comprehensive plot by the United States and its agents against the Islamic Revolution.

The Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman said: With such statements, the United States wants, on the one hand, to justify its aggressive and terroristic measures against the nations of the region, including its barbarous bombardments against the Lebanese people and the killing of innocent people, while, on the other, to prepare a favorable groundwork for a greater presence and to bring about a necessary excuse for its future acts of aggression and crimes in Lebanon and the Persian Gulf.

The Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman, with regard to Iraq's demonstrative move in the form of its threat that the attacks carried out in Kuwait constitute an act against the Arab nation and that Iraq would be forced to retaliate by use of military means against selected targets in Iran, said: The Iraqi Ba'thist regime, to attack populated areas and to kill innocent Iranian people, now and again resorts to vain excuses to justify its inhuman deeds. The Baghdad regime considers the attacks that took place in Kuwait to be against the Arab nation and considers itself dutybound to retaliate. But it is not clear why it should remain silent vis-a-vis the aggression launched by the United States, France, and Israel and by its other Western backers against the Arab country of Lebanon. Not only has it chosen to remain silent vis-a-vis all these crimes in Lebanon, but it is strengthening its links with the United States, France, and Israel and, in fact, has manifested itself as a subservient agent furthering the policies of imperialism.

The Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman referred in conclusion to Iraq's terrorist actions in the countries of the Persian Gulf basin. He said: The record of this regime's terrorist moves are patently obvious to all the countries of the region, particularly to Kuwait; its claim to guard Kuwait's security is in itself is an expression of blatant opportunism aimed at deceiving public opinion in the region.

Khamene'i: Foolish, Stupid Lie

LD141157 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Excerpts] At the end of his 3-day visit to Fars Province, MrKhamene'i, president and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, this morning took part in an exclusive interview with the Central News Unit correspondent.

[Correspondent] The Muslim people of the region, in retaliation for the aggression and expansion of the world-devouring United States and its agents in the region, destroy the espionage and sensitive centers of the great satan. In view of the fact that the United States is trying to somehow accuse Iran of involvement in these events, what are your views concerning these developments?

[Khamene'i] We do not expect anything else from the propaganda loudspeakers of world arrogance. What else can they say? How can they analyze the situation when an explosion or an event take place somewhere? Can they say that the nations of the region do not want them, that the nations of the region are uneasy about their governments' relations with the United States, the arrogant world, and with France? Can they say these things openly? They cannot say that the nations themselves have carried out these operations. They are forced to find another excuse for it.

We cannot expect them not to blame a revolutionary, independent government, like that of Iran, which has raised the Islamic Republic like a proud banner throughout the world and which has made a hammer of the Islamic Revolution and is beating it upon the superpowers' head. If they do not blame this government, who else can they blame?

Therefore, while we deny any connection between these events and the Islamic Republic of Iran, at the same time, we regard it as a foolish and stupid lie. We do not expect the propaganda loudspeakers dependent upon America and Israel to stop engaging in such foolish lies and allegations.

Radio Iran Comments on Kuwait Explosions

GF131840 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Excerpts] The terrorist organizations of Khomeyni, who are busy planting bombs in this and that country using the wealth of the Iranian nation and in the name of Islam, the Koran and Mohammad — the Lord's messenger — to disgrace innocent people, created another calamity in Kuwait yesterday. According to Western intelligence sources, the minimum payment by the Islamic regime to international terrorists is around $250,000 per case.

The explosions have created a wave of anger and hatred among Iranians living in Kuwait. According to reports coming from the country, the Iranians there are numbered among the most valuable, quiet, and reputable manpower in the country and are among those who control the economic pulse of the country. They

have always been respected in Kuwait. Now they intend to hold a big march there if the Kuwaiti Government agrees, thus separating the Iranian nation from the criminal Khomeyni. Should the protest march be held, around 50,000 Iranians living in Kuwait will participate in it.

After the explosions yesterday, the Kuwaiti police arrested a number of the mercenaries of the Islamic regime who have suspicious ties with a number of embassies. They are currently being questioned by Kuwaiti security officials. A driver of one of the car bombs is currently receiving medical care in Kuwait for burns. He has a great deal of information in his possession, which he will have to reveal to the world. He is being kept under very extensive security.

An Iranian merchant representing 60,000 Iranians living in Kuwait said yesterday that the events which occurred in Kuwait make every patriotic Iranian feel sorry and disgraced.

"The Kuwaiti nation should realize that such crimes are not committed by Iranians and that Khomeyni's murderers and criminals are separate from the Iranian nation."

An Iranian worker said: It is up to all of us to make retribution for such a disgrace.

A French journalist reported yesterday that [Iranian Ambassador to Kuwait] Shams-Ardakani refused a request for a telephone interview and the Islamic Republic Embassy has refused to talk on the subject. To stop any acts of vengence against the officials of the Islamic Republic Embassy in Kuwait, the police has stepped up security measures there. It has been reported that Kuwait is going to sever ties with the Islamic Republic as Lebanon did and will close Khomeyni's embassy.

According to informed sources, the plan for a large plot in Kuwait was hatched in the Islamic Republic months ago. Khomeyni's embassies in Kuwait, Damascus, Bahrain, the UAE, and the former embassy in Beirut must have been kept informed about it.

Police and security forces in Kuwait managed to discover large quantities of explosives and to neutralize bombs discovered in suspicious locations. There are indications that the plotters intended to bomb other parts of the city in a second phase, using the resulting chaos to occupy the country. The terrorist Islamic Jihad Organization which is a hireling of the Islamic Republic and which takes its orders from the Syrian security and information organization on the orders of the Islamic regime — this organization has participated in several massacres so far — claimed responsibility for the explosions in Kuwait yesterday.

A news source said that the explosives were possibly smuggled into Kuwait via diplomatic pouch and through a European country in order to avoid any suspicion. Iranians in Kuwait say that the Kuwaiti Government should expel the Islamic Republican regime's ambassador immediately. According to them,the regime's embassy has no duty there except creating disgrace and blackening the name of Iranians or causing them problems.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,572

LD132015 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Communique No 1,572 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. With condolences on the martyrdom anniversary of the 11th star in the sky of the religious leadership and imamate, His Holiness Imam Hasan 'Askari — peace be upon him — a brief report on the combat operations carried out in the past 24 hours hereby is announced:

Yesterday on the northwestern border fronts of the country, the powerful combatants of Islam opened fire on enemy positions and supply routes. As a result, one enemy artillery position was silenced, several enemy slit trenches and observation posts were destroyed, and several of the mercenaries' vehicles were damaged. Also, one of our patrol groups, penetrating inside the enemy positions, seized several of the Saddamist forces' weapons.

On the Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts, the combatants of Islam defended and guarded their positions and regions. By opening fire on enemy tank and artillery emplacements and concentration centers, they stopped enemy movements and destroyed several Iraqi trenches occupied by infantry. On the same fronts, personnel of the enemy's engineering units were busy repairing positions and creating obstacles on the defense lines, but the forces of Islam, opening fire, stopped their activities.

On the southern fronts yesterday, our combative units opened fire on the personnel concentrations, fortifications, and trenches of the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist forces. As a result of these operations,a number of the mercenaries were killed. Three enemy patrol groups, which intended to penetrate our defensive positions on the southern fronts, were sighted thanks to the vigilance of the units present at the front. They fled after suffering casualties from our fire.

Yesterday, as a result of enemy fire, a store was wrecked in the city of Abadan.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Oil Minister Explains OPEC Conference Stand

LD132036 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] In an interview with foreign and domestic journalists, Oil Minister Gharazi today explained the stance Iran adopted at the recent OPEC conference.

He said: Iran's main thrust in this conference was to show that a decrease of $5 in the oil price in the London conference held 9

months ago, while causing a decrease in the income of oil producers, has not gone into the pockets of the consumers but has been poured into the treasuries of America and big European countries.

The oil minister continued: As a result of OPEC policies adopted in the past 2 years, incomes of intermediary companies have increased at the expense of producing countries. Owing to the same policy, England's oil company had a $10-billion income last year; for this reason, Iran suggested that the oil price return to $34 dollars and that the quotas remain as they are.

Gharazi added that Iran has submitted detailed reports to OPEC. These reports show that if the oil price is fixed at $34 a barrel there will be no problem in the OPEC oil market.

He said: At this conference, Algeria declared that it did not oppose the $34 price; but Saudi Arabia and some other countries said: "We want to charge this price, but we can't."

He added that if Saudi Arabia does not resort to an increase in production, it will be possible to implement the $34 price.

The oil minister further said: Owing to the weakness of oil policy makers, such as Arabia, and since OPEC is still the only institution of the world's oppressed for the production of raw materials, we had to accept the price of $29 with a production level of 17.5 million barrels on the condition that Saudi Arabia does not produce beyond its quota according to orders from OPEC.

The oil minister added: Saudi Arabia and Kuwait produce more than 1 million barrels of oil a day from neutral fields [as heard] and they sell this overproduction in place of Iraq. Reminding the other OPEC members of the harmful effects of this overproduction, Iran has declared that these countries are not allowed to sell oil in place of Iraq.

He went on: Iraq is at war with us. According to international laws and conventions, which are approved by the United Nations, if two countries are engaged in war against one another and a third country puts resources and equipment at the disposal of one of the belligerents, the other side can seize all those resources in the sea, on land, and in all other places.

Regarding Iran's oil production, the oil minister said: Iran will continue to produce its oil on the basis of 2.4 million barrels production in accordance with the OPEC decision.

In connection with an Iranian not having been elected as secretary general, Gharazi said: This is not the first time we have faced a disagreement. He added that countries such as Saudi Arabia prevent the election of an Iranian secretary general and prevent Iran from achieving its rights because they know that such a secretary general would prevent such countries from causing difficulties for OPEC.

He concluded: We will not let the cohesion of OPEC, which is the only institution for raw materials of the world's oppressed peoples, be destroyed.

Tudeh Party Trial Continues 13 December

LD131213 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] During the trial of members of the secret military organization of the spy and traitorous Tudeh Party this morning, the cases of two other defendants, Colonel Hushang 'Attarian, former commander of the western operational region, and Colonel Bizhan Kabiri were heard in the Islamic Revolution military tribunal, chaired by Mr Mohammadi Reyshahri.

Mohammad Mahdi Partovi, the person in charge of the secret organization of the Tudeh Party, gave testimony during today's session. After the bill of indictment was read out by the Islamic Revolution military tribunal prosecutor, the first defendent, Hushang 'Attarian, began his own defense. While describing the charges, he confessed that when he attended the Supreme Defense Council committee, he reported the proceedings of that committee to his contact.

Concerning the charges against 'Attarian, Mohammad Mahdi Partovi said: While he was the commander of the 1st Infantry Division, he was introduced to us by Kianuri. 'Attarian gave reports to the Tudeh Party on the war, including starting dates and places of offensives, matters relating the Defense Ministry and the Supreme Defense Council, and information relating to the country's defense plan.

Bizhan Kabiri, the second defendant, answered to charges stated in the bill of indictment. He said: Unfortunately, we chose a party whose leaders today confess to treason and espionage.

Mohammad Mahdi Partovi, while describing the connection between that defendant and the motives behind the Tudeh Party's acts of treason, said: All this stems from our ideology. When we began believing in the Marxist party, in accordance with our ideology, we became affiliated with the communist center of the world, the Soviet Union.

While confessing to his contacts with Soviet agents, he said: Basically, all the Tudeh Party members were active in gathering information and spying as much as they could, so that the Tudeh Party could become as strong as possible and move toward assuming power. Partovi pointed out: We were ideologically misguided and should be punished for our acts of espionage.

NVOI Commentary on Trial of Tudeh Officers

TA132101 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Unattributed commentary: "Disgraceful Shows of Rulers of Islamic Republic"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: The history of our nation's liberation movement and the history of the great resurgence of working people and of all those who admire the path of Iran's liberation, freedom, and independence have been inscribed with blood and martyrdom. In a climate of propaganda and repetitions

of the nonsense of imperialist mouthpieces and SAVAKist writers, a few days ago the present regime and rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran brought to trial a number of our nation's noble sons — that is a group of patriotic officers — after months of torture and harassment and on the basis of fabricated charges.

According to the so-called prosecutor of the military tribunal of the Islamic rulers, these patriotic officers are allegedly charged with spying and handing over secret military reports to foreigners. To justify their charges, those in charge of the Islamic military tribunal — which is a reproduction of the military courts of the shah's regime — resorted as much as they could to various ploys and torture. What is occurring today in our tyranny-stricken homeland brings to mind the very bloody shows of the shah's regime against a group of the best and most noble Iranian officers, who some 29 years ago were delivered to the firing squad after going through a staged show called a military tribunal. Now after scores of years, the regime of the Islamic Republic has once again adopted a path taken by the shah's regime and which achieved nothing for it but shame and disgrace.

Without learning a lesson from the passage of time and from historical realities, by violating the most elementary human rights, and by resorting to the most wicked methods of mental and physical tortures, rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran are binding in chains strugglers on the path of freedom, independence, and social justice. Our people have not forgotten that leaders of the annihilated shah's regime, by staging those fake military tribunals and by shedding the blood of noble and struggling officers, in fact paved the way for a long period of domination by amassers of wealth and their imperialist supporters.

Now history is being repeated but in a different way. In the military tribunals of the rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as in the military courts of the annihilated shah, the judges and prosecutors have only one duty, that is convicting the accused. But in contrast to the military courts of the overthrown regime, in the military tribunals of the Islamic Republic those in charge of the court, whether judges or prosecutors, are all clothed in the garb of the clergy. By relying on fabricated files and by resorting to torture, officials of the fake courts of the shah's regime used to convict their victims on the basis of CIA laws, but the military tribunals of the Islamic rulers are perpetrating the same crime under the guise of Islam and shari'a standards.

The prosecutor of the military tribunal of the Islamic Republic of Iran has accused a number of officers of allegedly delivering secret military reports and documents to foreigners. Naturally, in confirmation of this claim, the prosecutor saw no need to present any proof except the so-called notorious confessions of the accused. Moreover, about which military secrets are these gentlemen talking when the multifarious agents of U.S. imperialism and the West have grasped all sensitive levers in their hands in all administrative and military foundations of the Islamic Republic and have sold the documents of Iran's independence to their Western masters?

Should you focus attention on most of these high-ranking officials, you will see that one way or another they have ties with or depend on their Western overlords. It is these elements who, to negate and exonerate themselves and save their own skin, have raised the club of charges of espionage against a group of our homeland's noble and patriotic strugglers, and have succumbed to a disgraceful compilation of files. It is not without reason that agents of the CIA, the intelligence service,and Mossad, as well as SAVAKists of the annihilated shah's regime, are all close associates and colleagues of the rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran in this great crime against our homeland's patriots and revolutionary forces.

These elements should know that our homeland's patriotic officers have an eternal revolutionary tradition. These liberal men have carried the sacred revolutionary hymn from one generation to another. The flame of patriotism and freedom, shining brilliantly in the pure hearts of these liberal men, cannot be extinguished by staging these shows in the name of military tribunals and oppressive verdicts. History will place a crown of honor and flowers on the bloody and broad heads of these sons of the masses, and a stain of shame and disgrace on the forehead of hypocritical superficials and superstition-worshippers.

We call on our homeland's revolutionary forces, on all aware people faithful to the revolution, and on progressive mankind to defend the lives of incarcerated patriots and prisoners of the fake military tribunals of the rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

USSR Support for Iraq, Tudeh Party Assailed

LD120046 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0740 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Right from the start of the Zionist Saddam's aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Kremlin statesmen adopted some contradictory stances which indicate coordination between their anti-Islamic policies and those of their Western comrades. Despite their claims of neutrality concerning the imposed war, the statesmen of the Eastern superpower have in practice adopted the approach of approving the Zionist-Ba'thist regime and encouraging the aggressor to continue his crimes and aggression. The hostile stance of the Russians against Iran became visibly clear when the defenders of the Islamic Revolution entered Iraqi territory for the sake of the trampled rights of the Iranian nation and to punish the archcriminals.

The Russian invaders [as heard] have, on many occasions, condemned the entry of the warriors of Islam into Iraqi territory as an act of aggression and intervention in the internal affairs of Iraq, although before that time, when the Ba'thist forces had occupied thousands of kilometers of territories of the Islamic Republic, the Russians made no attempt to condemn the aggressor.

Recently, Radio Moscow, in part of its commentary on the imposed war, remarked: "The Western mass media are trying to relieve the imperialists of the burden of responsibility for this war and are trying to accuse and discredit the Soviet Union. Unfortunately, some of the mass media in Iran are also prepared to play into the hands of the imperialists. Such misgivings have no basis. We would like to see Iran and Iraq stop wasting their

forces in war and fratricide. We would like them to join hands and struggle against the plots of imperialism and Zionism and strengthen their own political and economic independence."

The 26th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party also referred to the Iran-Iraq war as a futile and unwise war harmful to the interests of these two countries and expressed the belief that it serves the interests of imperialism.

If these reputed supporters of the strengthening of political and economic independence of nations believe that the war imposed by the world-devourers on Islamic Iran is serving the interests of imperialism and Zionism, why do they help Saddam to intensify the war and continue his crimes of ever-increasing massacre of the defenseless people of the Iranian border cities by arming the Ba'thist-Zionist regime with destructive and long-range missiles? And why have they strengthened their relations with Saddam and increased their political and economic aid to this aggressive regime? If, in the opinion of the Russian invaders, continuation of the imposed war is harmful to the interests of the nations of Iran and Iraq, why are they strengthening the aggressive, warmongering party by delivering such sophisticated weapons as the modern T-72 tanks, MiG-25's, and dozens of other military equipment to him? The fact today is that the fate and interests of the Western imperialist and Eastern socialist poles are tied with the existence of the Zionist rulers of Baghdad; and the two superpowers believe that annihilation of the regime ruling over Iraq would be the beginning of severance of their plundering of wealth of the Muslim-dominated nations. That is why they are trying to save Saddam from the verge of collapse and annihilation with their overall financial, propaganda, and military assistance.

In another analysis of relations between Iran and the USSR, Radio Moscow remarked: "We in the Soviet Union are not unhappy or worried about establishment of the Islamic ideology in Iran. It is up to the pepole of Iran to unite under any flag they like. The Soviet Union has kept its gates open to Iran for cooperation in every field on the basis of mutual equality, respect for territorial integrity, and national sovereignty, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, and serving the interests of the two sides."

As our dear imam of the nation said: —One of the great tragedies of our era is that phrases have become toys in the hands of those with power and money and the real meaning of these phrases has been changed. In view of this fact we can understand the extent of the superpowers' commitment to such phrases as "respect for territorial integrity, right of national sovereignty, and nonintervention in the internal affairs of other countries."

Today, our nation is witnessing the trial of the treacherous and mercenary leaders of the party of Russia's spies. The confessions made by the leadership cadre of the party has so far exposed the behind-the-scene events, their links with the KGB espionage organization, and the joint conspiracy of the Tudeh Party and its Russian masters. All these events and affairs demonstrate violation of the sovereignty of the Islamic Republic, the Soviet Government's interference in Iran's affairs, and they also show that claims by the Moscow statesmen of respect for territorial integrity and national sovereignty are false. Today, when our nation chants the slogan "Death to the Soviet Union," together with the slogans "Death to the USA, Israel and Saddam," it is because our nation is deeply aware of the nature of the arrogant system ruling in the world both in the liberal society of the West and behind the communist and socialist cloak of the East. This is an experience which the Muslim and oppressed nations of the world should bear in mind as the highest priority in their liberating struggle.

Guards Magazine Discusses Soviet Muslims

LD081952 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2330 GMT 7 Dec 83

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] The danger now worrying the Eastern imperialists is the Islamic movements in the Muslim republics of the Soviet Union, led by the struggling, independent clergymen of that country. These struggling clergymen are responsible and independent figures who are outside the organizations of mercenary communist akhunds [slightly derogatory Persian term for Muslim clergy] and comfortable and well-heeled sheykhol-eslams trained by the KGB espionage organization. They well understand the contradiction between Islam and the atheistic Marxist ideology and fight for the liberation of Soviet Muslims. The Russians call these struggling and independent clergymen self-willed mullahs [molahaye khodru] and regard them as a danger to their atheistic goverment.

In this connection *PRAVDA*, organ of the Soviet Communist party, writes: The Communists have studied the issues concerning the implementation of the decisions of the plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. The most important issue was the training of new human beings from an ideological point of view, which has been declared by the plenum as one of the most important goals. The issue of atheistic training is extremely important and serious steps should be taken in this connection. We have many problems in this field. In Turkmenistan Republic there are more than 300 active, illegal, self-willed mullahs. The first field of their activities is the so-called holy places. To fight against the revival of old ways one should not ignore atheistic training and one should make use of the experiences of kolkhoz elders. The mass media, especially the press, are paying less attention to these developments these days, whereas they should pay more attention to these issues.

In this connection, *PASDAR-E ESLAM* [magazine of the revolution guards] in an article by [Majlis Deputy] Professor Fakhroddin Hejazi, entitled, "Self-Willed Mullahs of the Soviet Union," writes:

In the past, too, valiant Muslim clergy in Iran have delivered strong blows to the Russians. Even now, in one of the squares in Moscow facing an underground station, there is a large statue of Griboyedov, their slain ambassador in Iran. He was trying to bring the Muslim Georgian women who had married in Iran under the banner of the Russian Embassy, but he was faced with the bloody uprising of Iranian Muslims. The struggling Iranian clergyman,Hajj Sheykh Mojtahed, aroused the people who attacked the Russian Embassy and killed embassy staff. Western

imperialism also has many sad tales to tell concerning the struggling Muslim clergy: from (Seyyed Jamalud-Din Asadabadi) to (Mirza-ye Shirazi), (Tavakeli), (Ibn-Badis), (Kashani), (Sheykh Fazlollah Nuri), (Modarres), and finally the great and immortal leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni.

For ages, the East and West have tried to destroy the clergy, and Ataturk, Reza Khan, and Mohammad Reza Khan did their best to achieve this end, but they were not able to stop this ever-flowing fountain. Nowadays, the Russians are exerting great effort to crush the power of independent clergymen, hoping that through the destruction of the clergy and the expansion of atheistic propaganda they can suppress Islam which has once again raised its head after 70 years of Marxist dominance. Radio and television programs in the Soviet Union continuously engage in anticlergy propaganda. Especially in Muslim republics, they put on ludicrous shows about the clergy, portraying them as dishonest, plundering, corrupt, and lascivious. Of course, at the same time, they also train some subservient akhunds and mercenary sheykh ol-eslams so that they may organize religious ceremonies in the interest of the ruling atheistic order and so that they may say in their sermons that there is no contradictions between Islam and the communist ideology, namely, that theism and atheism and existence and nonexistence are the same. Yes, this is another lesson about the dialectical contradictions of the Marxist ideology, when they contradict their own ideology.

However, 70 years of struggle against Islam and the clergy and the propagation of the atheistic Marxist ideology and indoctrination by a materialistic culture have produced opposite results and Islam is still thundering like an active volcano. The mosque of the Muslims in Moscow is filled with worshippers on Fridays. Although the Friday imam in his sermon recites "O God, assist Islam and the Muslims" in a low and distorted voice and does not even recite "O God, bring low the infidels and the hypocrites," nevertheless, religious books are sold in large numbers in second hand bookshops. Handwritten copies of religious books are sold at high prices in front of the book shops in pirated and illegal fashion. One can easily purchase religious portraits near ships selling handicraft. Religious ceremonies of Muslims and Christians are being held on Fridays and Sundays and on feast days. Although Mr Engels regards marriage and the formation of families as being the leftovers of tribal prejudices and believes in free sexual relations, nevertheless, I saw hundreds of decorated cars carrying brides and grooms who assemble near the Moscow river and, after registering their marriages, they go to mosques and churches for religious weddings. Muslim children are circumcised in the name of health. The expenses of religious premises are covered by the people themselves, although the government also takes away its own share of these donations.

Despite anti-Islamic attempts, which have continued for the past 60 years in the severest form, in Baku one can find many clear signs of attachment to Islam. The Muslims of Soviet Azerbaijan told me that they regulated their dawn and evening times during the fast by listening to Ardebil radio. This year during the month of Ramadan the mosques were so filled with young men that the head of the education department of Azerbaijan had to turn to the police and disrupted those congregations. On 'Ashura, mourning ceremonies are being held with unprecedented grandeur and all is closed. The Turkish version of Al-Bayan commentary [on the Koran] is sold for 8,000 tuman. People long for just one copy of the Koran but copies cannot be found. There are many copies of the books by Marx and Lenin, but no one buys them.

There is a shrine 24 km from Baku where the Muslims who are fed up with the foul atmosphere of blasphemy and atheism take shelter so that they may renovate their souls. Women in chador and young girls in headscarves entered the shrine in complete sincerity and bent their knees in front of the window overlooking the tomb and wept. I do not know how it is that young girls are brainwashed and indoctrinated in Marxist schools against Islam, yet in that holy spot they touched the sepulcher.

Although the Russians say that there is religious freedom in the Soviet Union, they have forbidden religious propaganda while constantly engaging in antireligious propaganda. They have turned mosques into museums or centers of merrymaking and debauchery and have turned takaya [religious centers] into educational centers. However, the few mosques left are continuing their work with great vigor.

Even in their school textbooks, the communists are making propaganda against Islam and write that Mohammad — may peace be upon him — was a capitalist merchant from noble families, who staged an uprising in Mecca in order to protect the interests of the capitalists and who started a new religion. See how shamelessly they distort historical facts and how they portray a poor prophet who during the entire length of his mission fought against capitalists such as Abu Lahab and Abu Sufyan and against kings such as Parviz and Heraclius.

Nevertheless, one cannot defeat the spirit and one cannot destroy soul, God, inspiration, and the last judgment. One cannot extinguish the sun with feeble blows. Now even atheistic scholars are admitting this truth, despite their wishes.

The Soviets want to destroy Islam with bombs, guns, missiles,and tanks, yet Islam is blossoming in the greatest intellectual and academic centers and in the hearts of idealistic youths who are thirsty for spirituality. In a day which is not very far off Islam will raise its head from the center of world atheism and blasphemy and burst forth. Repeated dawns will banish the darkness of blasphemy and hypocrisy.

The self-willed mullahs who are, in fact, self-willed and independent, have fought for centuries with their pens and their swords and have not submitted to any power except God. So one should tell the communists that this is why you and your vile and criminal friends, the Americans, have directed the sharp edge of your attack against great and struggling clergymen and this is why they are martyred in prayer niches at the hands of foreign mercenaries. This is due to the fact that you have rightly discovered the real danger point. Yet all your efforts will be to no avail. The Muslims have arisen under the leadership of genuine and struggling clergymen in Palestine and Lebanon, in Afghanistan and the Philippines, in Egypt and Sudan, in Tunisia and Morocco, and in other countries. This holy fire is also blazing in the Muslim republics of the Soviet Union. Since you regard Iran to be the source of this revolution, this is why you do your utmost to strengthen Iraq's Ba'thist regime, hoping that you will be able

to extinguish this holy flame. However, you have awakened too late and this volcano which is erupting through various mouths may no longer be tamed, because the little schoolchildren of Behbehan who were bathed in blood as the result of the attacks of your missiles have taught all the Muslims of the world that they should not stop their struggle until God's promise has been fulfilled.

Further Reportage on President's Shiraz Visit

GF121020 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Excerpts] A ceremony was held today at the shrine of Ahmad Musa in Shiraz, in which President Khamene'i took part. According to the Central News Unit, also present at this gathering to mark the second anniversary of the martyrdom of Ayatollah Dastgheyb were the Shiraz Friday imam, several clergymen, and civil and military officials of the province. Mr Khamene'i spoke at the ceremony.

He said that those who had opposed the revolution are today condemned by the people. It is an important fact to note that the Iranian people in their long history of relations with France had never hated its leaders as they now hate them today. While noting that the revolution was dear to the Iranian people, Khamene'i said that the revolution is a success, particularly when compared to conditions of the past 4 or 5 years.

Today, I say to the people of Shiraz, the people of Fars Province, and to people all over Iran that the government and its officials have their sights on the objectives of this revolution. Today the priority objective of the Iranian leaders and government officials and the goal of government programs are to achieve the high ideals of the Islamic Revolution. We do not claim that the Islamic Revolution has achieved all of its objectives, but we can say that today it has reached a point where it can with confidence develop programs to achieve these objectives.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council further said that the cooperation showed by the people with the officials and in view of their fortitude, create a bright future for the revolution.

The future of war is also clear to us. Today we announce to the world that Iraq has proved that it has left little chance for an agreement over the war and we will never accept its suggestions. We cannot accept the humiliation of Islam, of the Koran, and of this great nation at any cost.

Khamene'i said we will use all humane ways to achieve victory. We do not employ inhuman ways like Iraq does to achieve its objectives. We have not bombed any Iraqi city or residential area in Iraq. However, we will use all those means that are used in war by other nations.

Khamene'i said that if the United States enters this region our first reaction would be to cut off all at its (?helping) hands in the region.

The president said that we see a good future ahead for this country. Our first priority should be to make this country self-sufficent in food so that we are not dependent on others. The second priorty, which is as important as the first, is to have officials who will ensure smooth and sympathetic administration and this cannot be achieved without your cooperation.

The president said that nobody should believe that the revolution is over. The revolution has just started. We will not repeat the mistakes of the past. Today we have resolved that the revolutionary forces and young men should move forward hand in hand in unity with the Islamic forces within the country.

Khamene'i said that today the enemy wants to sow discord among us. We should see to it that our unity remains and no event, including the upcoming elections, will create rifts in the ranks of our Muslim brothers and sisters. We must keep our unity and prepare ourselves for a revolutionary life. You must ask help from God and live under his protection. May God keep our hearts together.

Addresses Guards

LD132201 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Continuing his visits to military centers in Shiraz, Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and chief of the Supreme Defense Council, visited the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in the 9th Area in Shiraz this morning. At the beginning of the visit, which was also attended by a number of religious leaders and military authorities, the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps 9th Area read a military report. Mr Khamene' then spoke:

The deep foundation for the victories of this revolution lies in the depth of the faith shown by the people, a fact to which we have already referred. For scores of years, there were attempts to corrupt the people in this very city. For many long years, there were attempts to destroy the Islamic spirit of the young people in this city. Debauchery and fornication were carried out openly in the streets. But once the pressure was removed from the people, we notice that this place is the center for the bubbling over of Islam and faith, a fact which is extremely precious.

When a corps is set up from among these very people, it should be, like you, faithful, zealous, full of motivation, and prepared for sacrifice. I have heard that the brothers and sisters in the area have dispatched the maximum number of forces to the front relative to the population, second only to one other place.

Referring to the exploitation carried out by Eastern and Western arrogance and their actions whereby they plunder the mineral deposits of the Islamic countries, one of the richest and probably the best in the world, he said: For many long years now, in the war in this part of the Islamic region and in the various nooks and corners of the Arab countries, a base of global arrogance has been set up on the land of Palestine and this illegitimate son has been born. Instead of the Muslim countries joining hands to extirpate and cast away this cancerous tumor and instead of cutting off the hand of global arrogance, the main root of which is in the holy land of Palestine, and instead of cutting off the hands of these agents in order to liberate the Muslim nation, they

cast themselves as Israel's competitors in getting close to the United States. Could this be the meaning of Islam and Muslims?

Today on the battlefields of good against evil, you have extremely onerous duties. Our fundamental duty today is waging war against Iraq, which is actually the hand of the United States in the area south and west of our country. Be sure that you make circumstances favorable for the destruction of the United States. Know that the victory of the soldiers of Islam on the fronts and on the borders with Iraq is not the victory of the Islamic Republic alone--it is the victory of Islam andtantamount to the victory of all the nations of Islam. If the Koran is weakened, all will be weakened. If we triumph in the war with Iraq, the Muslim nations will hold their heads high and be victorious.

The chief of the Supreme Defense Council emphasized: All those people who are waging war against this revolution aim their action at Islam. Anything that diverts us from the war and turns it into a secondary issue would be a gross error; if it were done knowingly, that would be tantamount to treason.

Mr Khamene'i added: If you brothers from the Shiraz Corps and Area No 9 continue to act properly with regard to this issue, just as you have acted so far, you will be carrying out your divine responsibility and duty. There are a great many people who do not wish to see unity in the Corps.

The chief of the Supreme Defense Council called on the guards to make their training as active as possible so that unison, affection, and cooperation between the corps and the army in this region, which is a valuable thing, might increase.

Right now the Monafeqin are not carrying out assassinations, but they seek to infiltrate and sow dissension. Preserve sincere relations, respect the axes. If you gather around the legal axes, nothing will divide you. The imam has often said that differences come from Satan. Differences of opinion may exist but should not become the cause of disputes. Do preserve the Corps as pure, free from stain, sincere, affectionate, monolithic, and uniform. This is up to both your commanders and the guards combatants. You are all dutybound to preserve this unity which is now needed by Islam. If those who are officially in the service of the revolution suffer from irresolution, this state of affairs will seep outside; and the Corps should not leak anything outside and nothing should infiltrate the inside from outside. You should acquire political, ideological, and military training and the affairs connected with discipline, since Islam needs that. Strive to preserve your links with the Koran and Islamic teachings! Fortunately, Shiraz is not poor from this standpoint, but rather rich.

The chief of the Supreme Defense Council reminded them: The issue which you should heed is that on the country level, and particularly in the Corps, we should take outside animosities seriously. If one were to overlook enemies and animosities, he would be deceiving himself. Today the fact is that all the powers who fear us constitute a threat to us. We do not intend to assault or attack others, but seriously intend to defend the prestige and honor of the revolution. If this resolve is serious in us, we should prepare ourselves. We have no fear. There are threats, but we are not afraid of threats. Today what is moving the people and opening the path is this revolutionary spirit. We have not altered our aim and aspiration. We are standing up and, God willing, will attain those aims with complete preparedness.

Mr Khamene'i concluded: Sincerely strive and make sure that nothing should bar the path to your striving.

Departs Shiraz for Firuzabad

GF131742 Tehran IRNA in English 1723 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Shiraz, Dec. 13, IRNA — We do not intend to attack others (countries) but we firmly intend to defend the dignity and existence of the (Islamic) revolution and therefore we will not be intimidated by the threats made by the superpowers, President Khamene'i said in a speech here today.

The president said the regimes who supported Iraq were actually fighting against Islam instead of uniting for the destruction of the Zionist regime.

Speaking at a military ceremony at the barracks of the Islamic revolution's guards here this morning, he said with the defeat of the Iraqi regime in the war we will reach a great victory in destroying the (interests) of the U.S. in the whole region.

The president then left Shiraz for a visit of Firuzabad, about 100 kms to the south.

In a speech at the city's stadium, the president stressed that the government's policy is to eliminate poverty in the country. He said despite the war and other pressures against the government by the world powers, fundamental steps had been taken in this respect.

The president and his advisors arrived in Shiraz on Sunday to hold talks with local officials.

Khomeyni Receives Guards Representative

LD131333 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Taheri-Khorramabadi, the imam's representative to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, was received by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic Revolution and commander in chief. During this meeting, he introduced Mohammadi-Araki to the imam as his deputy.

Montazeri Addresses College Cadets, Officials

LD101426 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Excerpts] According to the Central News Unit, cadets of the Cadet Training College and officials in charge of health training of the Ground Forces, accompanied by the commanders and the officials in charge of the religious-political departments of these two establishments, yesterday met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom. In the course of this meeting, his eminence referred to the role of the Armed Forces in society, as viewed by

His Great Eminence 'Ali Ibn-e Abitaleb — peace be upon him — in his book "Nanj al-Balaghah."

With regard to the use of the existing talents of young men in the Armed Forces, his eminence graciously said: It has often been observed that there are some intelligent and talented individuals among the officers and soldiers and, in my opinion, the gentlemen, commanders, and officials in charge of various departments should make use of the ideas and proposals of these individuals. Their talents should not be ignored and consultation should be made with anyone having a good idea or proposal. Of course, when it comes to decisionmaking, the order of command must certainly be observed.

His eminence then referred to excessive measures taken in many places. [as heard] He emphasized: I have repeatedly said that extremist youths have no ill intentions; they only want to serve the revolution. Unfortunately, these excessive measures culminate in the dismissal and purging of experts from the Armed Forces or universities and medical centers, and harm the revolution. Of course, I am not saying that a person with poor records should be given a key post such as leadership or commanding rank after expressing regret for his mistakes; I am saying that these individuals, with their talents, experience, expertise and know-how in various subjects should be used to serve the Islamic Revolution and the people.

His eminence added: I receive many letters from individuals who have made mistakes. They openly confess to their mistakes. I feel that these individuals have the beginning of a mental change in their attitudes and intend to atone for their past mistakes. We should give them a chance and, if in practice we witness no further mistakes, they should remain in the service of the revolution and the people forever.

Montazeri Receives Friday Imams 13 December

LD132230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Excerpts] The seminar of provincial councils of Friday imams from all parts of the country continued its work this morning in the presence of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in his office in Qom.

Referring to the need for greater cooperation between the Friday imams and officials of various organizations, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri said: If in the future the Islamic governemnt came to power as it really was in the early days of Islam and if the representatives of the imam and the Friday imams of various provinces were, in practice, put in charge of governorates, the roots of duality and contradictions would be eliminated. However, today when that situation is not realized and we still have a long way to go until we reach it, we should respect the national officials, the governors general and governors who are the official and political representatives of the Islamic government. In return, we should demand that they work and exercise responsibility. If there are some differences of views and opinions we should never humiliate them in front of the people. In any case, they too have studied like you and I and they deserve respect. If you were educated in Feyziyyeh school, they have gone to universities and have been educated there. In my view, by holding regular weekly meetings we can resolve most of the differences. If, God forbid, one of the officials is unsuitable, legal steps should be taken to replace him.

Concerning the need to maintain the dignity of the clergy in each region, he said: The Friday imams should not think that because they are now the representatives of the imam and Friday imams the other clergymen of towns and regions should no longer be taken into account. They, too, might have an influence among the people and wish to serve. As much as possible, they should also be consulted and unity of expression should be propagated among the people.

Concerning the candidacy of Friday imams for election to the Islamic Consultative Assembly, he said: Of course, there is no religious objection to the honorable Friday imams declaring their candidacy; but as far as possible they should refrain from announcing their candidacy and should send good people to the Majlis. They should continue to hold the position of Friday imam and the representative of the imam which is an important position. If in a place it is absolutely necessary, and if they do not go to the Majlis an unqualified person might be elected, then it is all right.

Emphasizing the need for maintaining the unity of all classes of clergymen, he said: It is not right, for instance, to say that differences exist between the instructors of Qom religious seminary, the militant clergy of Tehran, and the office of religious propaganda in Qom. The need for maintaining this unity is more urgent than the need for sending a qualified person — according to the views of different groups — to the Majlis. In my view, the gentlemen should try to achieve some kind of unity of views and unity of expression among themselves by any means they find appropriate.

Continuing his speech, the Grand Ayatollah Montazeri said: There is a famous saying in the world that revolutions devour their children. Today I feel that the same thing is happening in our society. According to modern terminology, one can say that a gradual and creeping coup is under way for the destruction and isolation of the genuine children of the revolution. A situation has arisen that gradually free and independent individuals who are committed to Islam, who have a record of revolutionary activities and of self-sacrifice and who, on the other hand, are wise and capable are facing the danger of being eliminated or isolated. In my view, this is a great danger threatening the country and the revolution, and if the honorable Friday imams are also aware of this danger then they should sit down and find a solution. Today, I feel that weak and obedient individuals are more attracted to the government, to the Majlis, and to many of the organizations, even to religious seminaries. Some people want others to obey them like dumb animals and if they express an opinion they will be rejected, even if they are believing, wise, and revolutionary; while, on the contrary, believing, independent, and brave people should find their way to the religious seminaries, the government, and the Majlis, so that if the prime minister, the Majlis speaker, or the president said something contrary to their opinion they have the courage and strength to express their views. It would be in the interest of the government, the Majlis, and the country that the people express their opinion without any fear or anxiety, and

that what is in the interest of the country and Islam is chosen and followed.

NVOI Commentary Calls for Free Majlis Elections

TA051121 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Unattributed commentary: "People Demand Creation of Conditions for Free Elections"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: At his latest Friday prayer ceremonies, Mr Rafsanjani said everyone can participate freely in the next elections.

Not more than a few months remain until the end of the first term of the Islamic Majlis. According to principle 63 of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Constitution, the elections of every term should be held prior to the end of the previous term so that at no time will the country be without a Majlis.

For some time now, rulers of the Islamic Republic have been engaged in preparations for elections to the Islamic Majlis. Enormous effort and endeavor are being exerted so that this time not a single deputy who has the slightest affiliation with the million-strong masses will set foot in Majlis arena and so that, in the next term of the Majlis, supporters of major capitalists and landlords may be able to trample conveniently and without apprehension on all the gains of the popular and anti-imperialist revolution and to sound its death knell.

After the cowardly offensive against the Iranian Tudeh Party, there are still some people in the Majlis, who out of loyalty to the oath that they had taken and on the basis of the faith that they have in the goals of the Iranian nation's glorious revolution, express from the Majlis rostrum — whether by hint or insinuation — some bitter realities relating to our society; they warn about the dangers threatening existence of the Islamic Republic's system. Naturally, supporters of the capitalist system ruling over our country cannot tolerate the presence of even these insignificant number of deputies. For this reason, the gentlemen have decided to form a homogenous Majlis and have set in motion the machine of deceit and trickery toward this end in order to deceive public opinion.

Amid all this, the gentlemen are not ready to tolerate even such organizations as the freedom movement, which supports a capitalist system favored by them, because they are not even ready to tolerate a watered down democracy. For this reason, by attacking the office of this organization on the eve of the Majlis elections and by assaulting and abusing a number of individuals, including Mr Sabbaghian in the hall of the Majlis, they warned their opponents to draw their own conclusions and not to think vainly of opposing the elections of the Islamic Republic of Iran's rulers.

Yes, rulers of the Islamic Republic are exerting great efforts to sound the death knell of the Iranian nation's popular and anti-imperialist revolution, and since they see even this moribund Islamic Majlis as a barrier in their path, they intend to homogenize it at the expense of the U.S. and British hojjatis and other elements of major capitalists and landlords and their U.S. and British masters.

Our homeland's struggling and revolutionary people demand the creation of conditions for free elections — conditions in which all parties and organizations faithful to the revolution and the Iranian Constitution, as well as all revolutionary forces supporting freedom, independence, and social justice, will enjoy complete freedom to participate in the elections.